The areas has since been declared as Revenue Village and all the public facilities are being maintained by the concerned department of the State Government. The Maintenance of water supply system is with the Uttarakhand Garhwal Jal Sansthan under the State Government of Uttarakhand.

Under the rehabilitation Policy, the responsibility of Project Authorities was to make one time Capital Expenditure for setting up the infrastructure for rehabilitated families. Subsequent maitenance is to be undertaken by the local authorities. However, the water supply scheme was maintained by the Project Authorities as a goodwill gesture for several years on account of delay in taking over of the facility by the State Government Agency.

THDC have informed that they have provided drinking water facilities to all the oustees of Tehri Dam Project resettled at Athurvala (Bhaniyawala) Visthapith Area, District Dehradun.

The water supply scheme has since been taken over by the Uttarakhand Garhwal Jal Sansthan, Government of Uttarakhand, in June, 2006 which is undertaking its operation and maintenance etc. including augmentation for meeting the future needs.

Progress of Rural Electrification in Uttar Pradesh

†4225. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details regarding the progress of electrification in the villages of Uttar Pradesh under Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana;

(b) whether all the villages of the State would be electrified within the time limit prescribed by the Central Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of the efforts being made by Government to improve the power transmission system and also to check the theft of power so that uninterrupted power supply could be maintained in the rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) 24339 un-electrified villages have been reported electrified under Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY) in Uttar Pradesh by the

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

implementing agencies since the introduction of the scheme uptill 30-4-2007. Besides this, electrification of 2.56 lakhs rural households, including over 2.55 lakh BPL households has also been done.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. All the balance un-electrified villages are expected to be electrified by 2009, the prescribed limit under RGGVY. All the 64 projects covering electrification of 30,802 un-electrified villages and intensive electrification of 3287 electrified villages in 65 districts of the State have been sanctioned with an outlay of Rs. 2719.52 crore.

(d) As reported by Central Electricity Authority (CEA), during the Tenth Plan, inter-regional transmission capacity has been increased from the level of 5000 MW to more than 14000 MW and the programme is to increase this to more than 37000 MW by the end of Eleventh Plan and a planned development towards a strong all-India synchronously integrated national grid system is for implementation. It is estimated that the total investment requirement, for transmission system development and related schemes in the country, during Eleventh Plan would be of the order of Rs. 140000 crore, out of which Rs. 75000 crore would be in Central Sector and Rs. 65000 crore in State Sector.

Government has launched the Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme for improvement of Sub-transmission and distribution system with the objective of reduction of AT&C losses to 15%.

35 projects have been sanctioned at an estimated cost of Rs. 1069.25 crores in the State of Uttar Pradesh, out of which the APDRP grant component was Rs. 267.31 crores, Government has so far released Rs. 236.74 crores against which the expenditure is Rs. 875.71 crore.

In compliance to Electricity Act, 2003 Uttar Pradesh has also set up special Courts for speeding up the disposal of theft cases.

In the Conference of Chief Secretaries/Secretaries held on 23rd and 24th April, 2007 in Delhi all the States have been requested to submit their Action Plan for reduction of losses to 15% in the Eleventh Plan.

The Electricity (Amendment) Bill, 2007 as passed by the Lok Sabha on 7-5-2007 has proposed amendments to the Electricity Act, 2003 *inter alia*, for further strengthening theft related provisions. These mainly relate to enhancing the penalty for unauthorized use of electricity, time-bound completion of assessment in such cases, expanding the scope of

unauthorized use of electricity, enhancing the amount to be deposited for appeal against the assessment order, widening the definition of theft of electricity, barring the large consumers from supply of electricity if they repeatedly indulge in theft, providing for disconnection in cases of theft, expanding the jurisdiction of special courts etc.

Power generation by NTPC

4226. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that NTPC has decided to stop power generation in many power stations in the country;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether NTPC has expertise in the field of nuclear power generation;

(d) if not, how the expertise is going to be achieved in this highly sensitive and technical area; and

(e) whether NTPC intends to outsource the project, if so, whether enough security measures have been taken?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of reply above.

(c) and (d) Although NTPC Ltd., is having rich experience in construction and operation of large capacity thermal power projects and more recently the foray into hydro projects, NTPC proposes to engage experienced technical consultants of international repute for seeking their advice in regard to various aspect of setting up of first 2000 MW nuclear power plant including training of manpower in design, operation and developing necessary competence in NTPC Ltd. for building nuclear plants in future as well.

(e) NTPC Ltd. does not intend to outsource the projects as its own employees shall be trained and involved in building the future nuclear projects.